

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 8, please replace paragraph 2 with the following amended paragraph:

Now referring to Figure 1, depicted are multiple scuba tanks 1-4 each having a locking device 10 placed in position for securing the tanks to a fixed structure 100. The locking device is formed from a steel lock plate 12 having a flexible attachment cable 18. One end 20 of the cable 18 is preferably permanently attached to the steel plate 12 and a distal end 22 having an end fitting 24 swaged thereto. The end fitting 24 may be sized for insertion through an aperture 14 in the steel plate 12 or permanently inserted therethrough with the end fitting enlarged to operate as a pull handle 24'. Multiple cable crimps 25 are used to provide locking of the flexible cable 18 at predetermined positions. When at least two cable crimps 25 are used, the cable 18 will be fixed to prevent lengthening as well as shortening of the cable. This is important when securing diving accessories where movement of the flexible 18 may otherwise provide a thief with the ability to dislodge an accessory. The steel lock plate 12 and flexible cable engage a K-valve 30 and further couple to a conventional lock cable 50 having a ~~first end~~ attachment end 52 that is secured to the fixed structure 100 and a ~~second end~~ insertion end having a transversely placed aperture receptive to the shank of a padlock 54 that passes through the steel plate 12

thereby preventing removal of the flexible cable 18. A lock 56 is secured to the second end thereby locking all of the tanks to the fixed structure.

Please replace paragraph 2 on page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 2 illustrates one embodiment of the locking device 10 which is formed from a substantially square or rectangular steel plate 12 having an aperture 14 and a slot 16 depending therefrom. The aperture 14 is sized to receive a flexible steel cable lock 50. The locking device 10 further includes a flexible attachment cable 18 having one end 20 permanently attached to the steel plate 12 and a distal end 22 having an end fitting 24 swaged thereto. In this embodiment the end fitting 24 is sized for insertion through the aperture 14. The flexible cable 18 is sized for placement within the slot 16 of the steel plate 12 and employs at least one cable crimp 25 which operates as a line positioner. However, multiple cable crimps 25 can be used to provide locking of the line at any number of positions and, when at least two cable crimps 25 are ~~[[use]]~~ used, as shown, the cable can be fixed in length to prevent lengthening as well as shortening of the flexible attachment cable once placed in the slot. It should be noted that the proximal end 20 may be unattached wherein the flexible attachment cable 18 may be stored

independently from the steel plate lock and when use is required, engage the proximal end 20 with the slot 16. In addition, it is possible to use this embodiment wherein the lock can be used independently from the main locking cable 50. The use of the smaller lug 24 can be passed through an object that might not be secured by a standard loop as described later in this patent. This would allow the cable to be used to lock wherein the steel plate lock can be secured by placement of a regular paddle lock through aperture 14. The loop can secure various items in the dive industry such as the regulator and groups of other equipment [[to]] too small for a conventional type loop system. However, the preferred mode is to permanently attach the proximal end 20 of the flexible attachment cable to prevent loss of the component parts and make it convenient for installation.

Please replace paragraph 1 on page 11 with the following amended paragraph:

The flexible cable 18 is unable to reenter the aperture 14 due to the cable lock 50. The cable lock 50 is passed through the aperture of one or multiple lock plates 12 in a consecutive order until one or all the tanks are locked. If no fixed object is available, the locking of a plurality of tanks, (i.e. four or more) would prevent theft of the tanks since multiple tanks could

be most difficult for a theft to lift or conceal. As this device can be used to lock an entire chain of tanks, such as those found on a dive boat, it is simple to lock the tanks [[to]] together to deter theft